

matter in the Legislature. Is that basically correct?

SENATOR MERZ: It is very simple and really it shouldn't take any time...

SENATOR DE CAMP: If tax increases were that easy, maybe that is the problem with our society. They don't take any time and they are too easy.

SENATOR MERZ: Well, what did we do yesterday? We took the lid off of State Aid to Education, didn't we?

SENATOR DE CAMP: We didn't take any lid off at all.

PRESIDENT: Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President, members of the body, there are two things I would like to bring out. Number one, I support Senator Merz's motion and all this is a motion to schedule the debate of this particular bill on Monday. Now, as far as what Senator Newell tells us, for example, that they did not furnish him with the information that he requested. Well, I have a copy of a letter dated February 10, 1978, addressed to Senator Dave Newell. We all got copies of it and it is signed by Al Veys, Mayor of Omaha. All state Senators got it. News media got it. Omaha City Council got it. If Dave Newell didn't get it, I'll be happy to furnish him a copy of it. So consequently he has received the information he wanted. Maybe he has just mislaid it or something. The point made by Senator DeCamp for example, that this is a fifty percent tax increase, first of all, that is getting into the details of the bill, but Senator DeCamp, I will prove to you Monday that this is not a fifty percent increase in taxes in the City of Omaha. I would urge, due to the fact that in order to be able to levy the half a cent if we do it, if this body chooses to allow it, in order to do that so that we would get enough money raised by this extra half a cent during the course of the year to meet the actual financial needs of \$3.2 million, we must pass it relatively soon and that is all in the world this is to do is to ask permission to put it on debate Monday so that we can actually discuss the details of the bill Monday. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dworak. Senator Venditte.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, first of all let me preface my comments by saying, Senator Chambers, that what I am about to say may sound like somewhat of a cop out, but nonetheless, I would at this point, rise in opposition to Senator Newell's opposition and support the Merz motion for a number of reasons. I have been convinced that Omaha is sincere in their request of this half percent increase in their city sales tax. I know that my stand originally was not to vote for such an increase in the city's sales tax and I know that a number of my constituents work for the City of Omaha and many of them were concerned about the stand that I had taken and many of them had expressed concern to me that perhaps their jobs may be in jeopardy. Then of course, I had a number of senior citizens call and tell me that they were concerned about the fact that perhaps their garbage may be increased something like \$7 or \$10 a month. Well, I think in the interim or at least since this has been brought to the Legislature, I have met with city officials, I have talked with Mayor Veys, I have talked